constructed from funds made available through a number of schemes of various departments, no consolidated statement is maintained State-wise.

(b) and (c) As per the Sixth All India Educational Survey (1993), 7.61 per cent of primary schools in rural areas of the country were without buildings.

(d)The scheme of Operation Blackboard, *inter-alia,* envisages to provide at least two classrooms to all primary schools existing as on 30.9.1986. Accordingly, provision for school building construction has been made under programmes of rural development like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana/Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JRY/JGSY). So far 1.85 lakh classrooms have been constructed. Under District Primary Education Programme, 216300 school buildings and 34200 classrooms have been constructed/or are in progress, the civil works ceillay under DPEP has been increased from 24% to 33% of the project cost. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, a time bound programme for achieving Universalization of Elementary Education, 33% of the funds are earmarked for construction of school buildings and other civil works. About 50% of the Additional Central Assistance for elementary education under PMGY is earmarked for construction of new school buildings, classrooms and for provision of toilets and drinking water facilities in existing schools.

Iyer Committee recommendations on custodial justice to women prisoners

2801. SHRI VUAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on women organised a seminar on 17th/18th May, 2001 to examine and assess the implementation of Iyer Committee's recommendations on custodial justice to women prisoners in different States;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Iyer Committee, the action taken by Government thereon and reaction of the National Commission on Women;

(c) the number of women prisoners in different States; and

(d) the changes sought to be made in the existing laws, in the light of Iyer Committee's report?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The gist of major recommendations contained in the report of the National Expert Committee on Women Prisoners headed by Justice Krishna Iyer is at Statement-I *(See* below). The National Commission for Women has urged the Government to implement the recommendations of this expert Committee. These recommendations have been forwarded to State Governments and Ministry of Home Affairs for appropriate action. A Statement received from the National Crimes records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, showing the number of women prisoners in States/Union Territories as on 31.12.99 is at Statement-II.

Statement I

Gist of major recommendations contained in the Report of the National Expert Committee on Women Prisoners headed by Justice Krishna Iyer

1. Policy Making and Monitoring

(a) A National Policy on Custodial Justice to women should be formulated and adopted. A draft policy was suggested by the Expert Committee.

(b) National Authority on Custodial Justice to Women (NACJW) should be constituted to overview and monitor the implementation of the National Policy.

(c) One Member of NACJW be designated as the Ombudsman for Custodial Institution for Women in India.

2. Judicial

(a) State level ACJAW and Ombudsman be also set up.

(b) Depending on the individual preferences of States, either the jurisdiction of Family Court constituted under the Family court Act 1984 be extended or the Women's Court should be instituted to dispense justice to women. But it should be mandatory for the States to create a separate and specialized justice dispensing modality to women.

(c) Nari Bandigriha Adalat in the nature of mobile judicial camps for rendering speedy redress to women in custody.

3. Legislative

(a) Article 252 of the Constitution of India should be invoked to get the concurrence of two or more States to bring uniform Comprehensive Prison and Prisoner Act throughout the country.

(b) A comprehensive code to cover the administration of all custodial institutions should also be formulated.

(c) Critical assessment of the efficacy and relevance of various legislations bearing on women's status in custody and their criminality should be undertaken by the Law Commission.

(d) Appropriate amendment should be made in the IPC, Cr. PC, Prison Act, 1894 and Police Act 1861 to reflect the special needs of women in custody.

(e) The new Mental Health Bill should reflect the specific recommendations of the Committee in respect of the custody and treatment of non-criminal and criminal lunatic women.

4. Administrative

A, *Prisons*

(a) A cadre of prison service should be set up.

(b) There should be enhanced and protected representation of women in the prison cadre.

(c) There should be women DIG at the State HQ preferably from prison service to look after the work relating to women prisons.

(d) Women Superintendents of Women prisons should be made fully autonomous.

(e) There should be permanent wardens and matrons.

(f) Prisoner's Council should be set up in every prison.

(g) Socio-legal counseling cells should be set up in every prison

(h) Released Prisoner's Aid Societies should operate in every district.

(i) Prison amenities for women and their children should be clearly identified preferably in a separate volume of the Prison Manual.

B. Police

(a) A cadre of Women Police should be set up.

(b) It should be mandatory for each Police Station to have seperate lock up for women prisoners.

(c) A model Police Manual should be compiled and this should carry indicative standards of minimum space and other facilities and procedures applicable to women when in Police custody.

(d) Women's Assistance Police Unit should be created.

C. Social Welfare and Mental Health Custodial Institutions

(a) A manual to guide the management of these institutions should be compiled.

(b) Greater grant of flexibility and tighter inspection and monitor mechanism should be devised.

(c) A national evaluative profile should be attempt to help streamline social welfare custodial institutions.

(d) Judicial camps should be convened in these institutions.

(e) Socio-legal counseling cells should operate in these institutes.

(f) Inmates Councils should be set up in these institutions.

(g) An escort crops with necessary police powers should be developed to provide escorting services to these institutions.

5. Participative structure

(a) Recognized individuals and groups should have full access to custodial institutions alongwith full rights to inspect institutional record and interview inmates in confidence.

(b) Socio-legal cells to be jointly run by law schools and schools of social work should be attached to every custodial centre or a cluster of centers.

Statement-II

Women Prisoners in States/Union Territories on 31-12-99 (As informed by National Crimes Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs)

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Female inmates
1.	Andhra Pradesh	523
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Assam	150
4.	Bihar	1088
5.	Goa	8
6.	Gujarat	234
7.	Haryana	358
8.	Himachal Pradesh	19
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	24
10.	Karnataka	230
11.	Kerala	196
12.	Madhya Pradesh	894
13.	Maharashtra	683
14.	Manipur	11
15.	Meghalaya	12
16.	Mizoram	111
17.	Nagaland	14
18.	Orissa	285
19.	Punjab	485
20.	Rajasthan	264
21.	Sikldm	6
22.	Tamil Nadu	1122
23.	Tripura	15
24.	Uttar Pradesh	885
25.	West Bengal	540
26.	A & N Island	3
27.	Chandigarh	24
28.	D & N Haveli	1
29.	Daman & Diu	5
30.	Delhi	439
31.	Lakshadweep	0
32.	Pondicherry	16
	TOTAL (All India)	8645

Source: Prison Statistics-1999.

Note: 1. Figures are provisional. 2. No Jails in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.